

Americans that they cannot use their own money to purchase private health insurance to cover legal medical procedures. This is an unprecedented and dramatic departure from current law.

Not long ago, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg observed that reproductive rights “center on a woman’s autonomy to determine her life’s course.” Trading away those rights for limited access to health care is a devil’s bargain that we will not make.

I urge my colleagues to act—to support women’s access to a full range of reproductive health services, and to bring health care to all Americans.

HONORING JOSEPH TORCHIA

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Torchia, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joseph has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph Torchia for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT
AND MRS. GORDON MOULTON ON
THE OCCASION OF THE NAMING
OF THE USA BELL TOWER IN
THEIR HONOR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to offer congratulations to University of South Alabama President Gordon Moulton and his wife, Geri, whose efforts in support of the University are being permanently heralded by the naming of the new campus bell tower in their honor.

On September 18, 2009, the University of South Alabama Board of Trustees officially announced that the school’s new bell tower will be dedicated “in honor of ‘the exceptional service’ of President Gordon Moulton and his wife, Geri.”

When the 135-foot structure is completed in December, it will be the “premier landmark and the enduring symbol of spirit of the University of South Alabama,” the board said. The impressive tower with four large bronze bells will also serve as a monument honoring alumni who are providing support for the project.

Madam Speaker, Gordon and Geri are deserving of such a lasting recognition. President Moulton has not only been the helmsman of the University since 1998—overseeing milestones in student enrollment and graduation, enhancement of campus life, and greater involvement of faculty and students in the community—he has also had a direct role in the establishment of the Mitchell Cancer Institute.

The University of South Alabama has also seen the benefit of his support of the University’s Technology and Research Park and the Children’s and Women’s Hospital, to name a few.

President and Mrs. Moulton are well known for their advocacy of local causes important to the community. Geri was also honored in 2009 with the dedication of the Geri Moulton Children’s Park.

I wish to extend my congratulations and appreciation to both President and Mrs. Moulton and look forward to their continued beneficial leadership of the University of South Alabama.

MAKE NO COMMITMENTS AT
COPENHAGEN

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in response to President Obama’s expected commitment to the world at the Copenhagen climate change discussion for the United States to reduce carbon emissions by 17 percent by 2020.

It is simply ludicrous to think that we can reduce carbon emissions by 17 percent by 2020 without wrecking our economy. I am also concerned about the Administration’s so-called endangerment finding to regulate carbon emissions under the Clean Air Act. This is a disastrous move forward to regulate carbon under a law that was clearly not intended to regulate carbon emissions. In many cases, it is not required under this law to take into consideration the impact on the economy, which poses enormous problems. Going further on the science of climate change, in light of the emails that show that scientists have been suppressing information about the scientific proof of climate change, I believe that it is even more important that we take a step back and ensure that we understand the impact of carbon emissions.

The trick that scientists have been using to make the data work has been reported as being called, “trick and hide.” It seems, Madam Speaker, that not only are the scientists “tricking and hiding” the American people on the science of climate changes, but the Democratic Majority is “tricking and hiding” the truth about the cap and trade bill. The truth about the cap and trade bill is that this bill will increase electricity rates in some states, like Kentucky, as much as 40 percent. Additionally, the cap and trade bill is nothing more than a hidden tax on the American people. I might add that I am not against reducing carbon emissions as I have cosponsored and helped move the Carbon Capture and Sequestration legislation that was sponsored by Congressman BOUCHER and others.

It is important that we develop this technology before enacting any regulatory regime to dramatically reduce carbon emissions. These efforts are essential in keeping electricity rates low. However, I am against the President making a commitment that we cannot meet and that China and India will not match. I am also against the Administration’s movement to regulate carbon through the Clean Air Act.

We must take a step back and study the science on this issue to make certain we get this right and I call on the Administration to do just that. I call on my colleagues to speak up about negative impacts of the “trick and hide” bill and urge the Administration not to make any commitments at Copenhagen.

HONORING VFW POST 8946 IN
WOODCLIFF LAKE, NEW JERSEY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the work of VFW Post 8946 in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey for their selfless and inspiring deeds towards their fellow citizens. For the past few years this group of extraordinary individuals has been traveling to the Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington DC as well as the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. During their trips the members of the Post have spent time with wounded veterans and their families. They have brought items such as clothing, CD players, electric shavers and even a large TV for the Recreation Room.

After one of their more recent visits to Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, William Huston, a member of the Post, told a local reporter that, “these young men have a remarkable attitude, we cannot properly express the admiration we have for them.” It is this sense of genuine commitment towards helping those who have given so much to our nation that makes this Post unique in many ways.

As I reflect on the deeds they have done I cannot help but be reminded of the enduring words from President Abraham Lincoln’s second inaugural address. Lincoln challenged his fellow Americans to “care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.” The men of this Post are a living testament to these words.

I want to once again thank this group of exceptional men for their service towards their fellow citizens. I am proud to represent such a fine group of people in the United States House of Representatives and I would like to recognize individually: William Huston, Gerard DeCicco, Joseph M. Poggi, Faust Faustini, Ray Johns, Peter Mauro, James Horris, Edward Powers, Sergei Leoniuk, Edward Halvey, George Kritzer, Fredrick Singer, and Robery Schmitt.